

UNCLE TRUSTY!

Copyright, 1912, International News Service.



"Now, boys, we've found out the best way to get next to Woodrow! You know he gets all his information out of the London Times! We got about the tariff? Of course, between ourselves, dear old chap, you're long as you let us 'ave a chance to trim that bloom'n' little bouncer, the readin' the bally old Times! Awfter your term over we'll make you a past 4'; say 'hawf-awfter 4'! Now, all together:

"Rule Britannia, don'tcherknow, Britannia rules the waves! Britons neva, neva, neva shawn't be slaves!"

On the Spur of the Moment

By Roy K. Moulton

A Joke.

(John D. Rockefeller offers this pet advice to men of all rank and station during the course of an interview. "Save your money; that's the keynote of success.")

"If successful you'd be. Save your coin," said John D. Our idea of a joke is just that, gentle folk. It is easy to say: "For the next rainy day. Save your pennies, my lad." That is what my dear did. Used to say years ago: "Save your dough, save your dough."

When the grocer gets through, And the dealer, too, And the butcher gets his, And the philosopher raves, And we have lured the price For the gas and the rent, And we have not got a cent. How are we going to save?

From the Hickeyville Clarion.

Uncle Ezra Harkins' red flannel chest protector was seen hanging out on the line one day this week. This is the old original harbingers of spring. Keeper, has put a red flannel chest protector on the screen over the cheese case, and the crowd is now going home to lunch noons.

A fellow will gladly spend \$25 for gasoline and kick if he has to drop 25 cents in the collection plate.

Lemuel Purdy, formerly of this village, is now an operator in Wall Street—a telegraph operator.

Hi Huggins is looking forward to a record-breakin' frog leg crop this season. Hi has invented a humane way of getting frogs, and he doesn't spear 'em or hit 'em with a club any more. He plays a guitar and entices them out onto the bank, where he has already spread a large quantity of Japanese snuff, and they sneeze themselves to death.

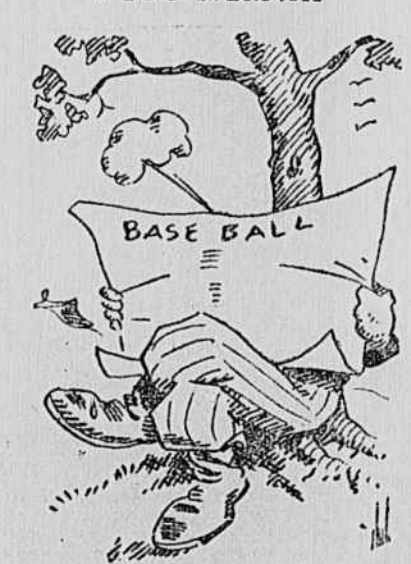
Lem Botts is gettin' sort of splenetic again them mail order houses. He ordered a dozen strictly fresh eggs by parcels post the other day, and when they came, one of 'em had a note written on it in lead pencil, the message bein' dated April 7, 1911.

It ain't much of an inducement to tell a kid that if he is good he may grow up to be the ambassador to Mexico.

Lemuel Higgins, a lifelong Democrat for almost six months, writes home from Washington that he will stay there until he gets a job. He has already borrowed \$18 from our Congressmen. Wilson refuses to see him. The folks around here never could.

Folks are speculating on what the barber will find in Uncle Ezra Harkins' chest protector.

Abe Martin



Some folks list read th' headlines an' others know what they're talkin' about. There's jist enough whiskers in th' Wilson Cabinet 't relieve th' monotony.

Voice of the People

Free Water for Cleanliness.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir,—The Times-Dispatch wants to know why the Southern cities are dirtier than those of the North and West. I cannot speak for all Southern cities, but I think in Richmond it is the lack of free water.

I have lived both in the North and West and Richmond is the first place I have been taxed for water. Even in Southern California (Los Angeles), where it is a distance, we had nothing to do with the water rent. The landlord paid all that, and we did not pay as high rent as we do in Richmond.

If these water meters were abolished and the people were allowed to use all the water they wanted, both for cleaning and bathing purposes, and also to have an attachment in the front of the residence for a hose with which to water the lawn and street every evening as they do in the North and West, you would soon see a marked improvement in this city.

"Cleanliness is next to godliness," and I am here to tell you there are lots of tidy people all around us. When you enter a lavatory the first thing to greet you is a sign, "Do not let the water run." If there are several people living in a house and each one wastes a little every day, you have an excess water bill. Now, the remedy lies in the hands of the city fathers. Let's have plenty of water. H. C. L.

A Tribute to Joshua Fletcher.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir,—I am inclosing the following tribute to a man whose influence and life will long endure in the hearts and minds of those whose daily lives are touched by him.

Last week Joshua Fletcher, Esq., died at his home, "The Maples," in Fauquier County, ere the shadows of evening had crossed his life-sky. He was a type that young Virginia manhood would do well to imitate, for he brought to his generation all the quiet dignity and lofty ideals of our old civilization, and with them the splendid spirit of courage and progress and leadership that has made the citizenship of the South what it is. Joshua Fletcher was born to command; from his happy boyhood he laughed and joked and belittled in all that his life touched and quickly drew all people to him, and this love and faith he held to the last hour of his life.

No one feared him; all men honored him. As he grew to manhood and life's burdens were put upon him, he met them with high courage and a determination to conquer, no matter how insurmountable seemed the odds. He did

PUT THIS LABEL ON YOUR GOODS



give battle all along life's highway, and every step of the way he has left his name writ high that young men struggling, discouraged, may read the lessons of his life with its masterly achievements and thus go on to success in their own time.

"Of such rare executive ability, justice and honor, combined with a wonderful heart and tenderness that never let a weary cry of the poor and down-trodden go unheeded, there is no need to tell the community that most feels his loss to-day. Great men of finance and business turned to him in his wisdom, and the humblest people of the countryside came to him for cheer and ministry."

"Joshua Fletcher lived in the land of his fathers and brought riches and honor to it. His life was lived in the heart of the hills of Fauquier, lived always for the good of mankind and for the larger growth of his native country. He did perhaps more than any one man to develop the possibilities of that part of Virginia, and answered to every claim upon him for progress and public good in his community. He was one of Virginia's noblest gentlemen, a man that all men delighted to honor, and whose memory will be cherished all over the State. His wonderfully sunny nature could only leave sweetness in the hearts that touched his own, and the inspiration of his life, high and spotless, above reproach in all things, will but lead men nearer to the God he served so nobly through all the years." W. E. C.

"Woman's Reason."

(Answer to "Shade of Our Great-Grandmother," in Issue of April 16.)

Dear Grandmother, shade, you are shocked, you say. At the state of things which exist to-day. You say women used to sit and spin. While now they seem trying to oust the men.

No, Grandmother, dear; you are all at sea. We are trying to make this the "Home of the Free."

Indeed and in truth, and woman's share Not what men think she ought to bear.

A "Woman's Home is her throne," 'tis true. But Grandmother, dear, what is she to do? When—lofts and in alleys her sisters pine And Men—Men Only—her status define?

Machines do our spinning and weaving to-day. We cannot hide from the world away. We wear and we raise our girls and boys. But when they are done with their childhood toys

Shall we meekly say, "I have done my share. With what comes to them now I have no care?" No; the Mother who bears has the greatest right To shield her child from Greed and Might.

Men's care has been small for "the empty hand." So we're trying to wrest "the ballot brand." And to give for ourselves what the laws That govern Our Girls in the Land of the Free.

You say you fear that when next you come We'll be spinning the world upon our thumb. If that's all your worry, do not linger— You turned Great-Grandfather round your finger.

Waverly, Va. M. E. BULLOCK.

Divine Philosophy.

The beggar, in his wretched state, Friendless, joyless, mean, unblest, Humbly yields to bitter fate. And murmurs, "God, thou knowest best."

The king, cursed with temporal power, By heavy cares of state oppressed, Plucks up heart in gloomy hour. And murmurs, "God, thou knowest best."

And I, a pilgrim at the shrine Of peace, of love, of heavenly rest, Regard my woes as things divine. And trust to God, "who knoweth best."

HENRY GEORGE SEED.

New York.

QUERIES & ANSWERS

Legal.

What is a writ of habeas corpus? What is the meaning of "habeas corpus"? What is an ex post facto law? What is a bill of attainder?

M. D. An order signed by a judge directing a jailer to bring a certain prisoner before the court at a stated time. The writ is usually sought for the purpose of hastening a trial or in the hope of showing that the prisoner is unlawfully detained. With many others separating them, the words "corpus habes coram nobis" (thou shalt produce his person before us) form part of the order, and "habeas corpus"—regarded as the keynote words—have given the name to the writ which was long considered a most needed defense against that sort of tyrannical instrument, Governor Spotswood, in June, 1719, "brought" the writ into Virginia.

An ex post facto law is one which provides punishment for acts committed before the existence of the law. The phrase means "after the fact." A bill of attainder is a punitive law generally naming one or more persons and pronouncing certain penalties (commonly death) against them and the confiscation of their estate.

Antisuffragist. Where may one get statements of the facts, etc., opposed to equal suffrage for women? O. L. LADY, 25 West Thirty-ninth Street, New York City. She is the secretary of the Association Opposed to Woman's Suffrage.

Arizona and New Mexico. Please give the reasons for the names Arizona and New Mexico; their State mottoes, and date of admission to the Union. MISS B. R.

It is most likely that Arizona means arid zone. Mowry declares that it is derived from the Aztec word "arizuma," silver bearing. New Mexico was named naturally from its old connection with Mexico and its similarity in all respects to the northern part of that country. Dital Deus—Crescit Eundo. February 14, 1912—January 6, 1912.

Election of Senators. Where may one get information on the subject of the election of United States Senators by the people? H. COOK.

Hon. A. J. Montague, House of Representatives, Washington, D. C., can send it to you.

Trade Position of United States. Can the United States support their population on domestic products? Do they do so? If not, what per cent of imports is actual necessities? Are the imports balanced by export of foodstuffs? J. A. G. S.

Yes. Yes. No part of imports is actually necessary. This country does not export foodstuffs enough to balance its imports, but it does export in manufactured articles and foodstuffs, etc., a total greater than the value of the total imports by about \$500,000,000.

Problems. I sent you several problems, and hoped you would print them. Instead I find that you have mailed the solutions to me. Please tell me why. T. R. N.

Because the work was too long, and some of it too complicated to have it set up in print here. Besides, the problems were of no interest to the general reader, as they are and solutions were of no interest to the general reader. I presented no attractive nor difficult points, and solutions seemed to us to be asked for mainly to save you the trouble of working on your calculus at school.

The National State and City Bank invites you to open an account either subject to check or at 3% interest in its Savings Department. CAPITAL and SURPLUS \$1,600,000.00

The Times-Dispatch

Business Office.....Times-Dispatch Building
10 South Tenth Street.
South Richmond.....1929 Hull Street
Petersburg Bureau.....109 N. Sycamore Street
Lynchburg Bureau.....215 Eighth Street

BY MAIL. One Six Three One
POSTAGE PAID. Year. Mos. Mos. Mo.
Daily with Sunday.....\$3.00 \$3.00 \$1.50
Daily without Sunday.....4.00 2.50 1.00
Sunday edition only.....2.00 1.00 .50

By Times-Dispatch Carrier Delivery Service in Richmond (and suburbs) and Petersburg—
One Week.....15 cents
Daily with Sunday.....15 cents
Daily without Sunday.....10 cents
Sunday only.....5 cents

Entered January 27, 1905, at Richmond, Va., as second-class matter under act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 1913.

THE BOARD ACTS WISELY.

The Times-Dispatch congratulates the Administrative Board upon its wisdom in refusing City Engineer Bolling's resignation. There was no just reason why the city of Richmond should be deprived of the ability, honesty and long experience of this official at a most critical time in our municipal life. Our problems at this moment are physical. We need engineering skill in the rebuilding of the present city and in the planning of Greater Richmond. Nowhere in the country could we secure the services of a man who has the intimate acquaintance with local conditions and needs that has been gained by Mr. Bolling in his years of service. It would be the height of folly to lose this invaluable aid now.

We have supported Mr. Bolling in his demand that he be given the authority to conduct the affairs of his own office in accord with his own discretion. We support him now in his request for such additional help as will enable him to meet the increasing complex calls upon his force. From what we know of the present force in this office we believe they are efficient, hard-working and conscientious. They are not shirking. Indeed, if anything, their efforts at improvement and research into technical problems have been handicapped by a lack of leisure. They need assistance to enable them to give the fullest benefit of their training to the community. The Council has practically guaranteed such additions to the staff as have been recommended, and the board yesterday concurred. We expect this measure of relief to be speedily forthcoming.

The last word is concerning tenure of office. The people will not tolerate the removal of a good man without just cause. They will not tolerate any tactics that will invite his resignation. They want their servants to be protected by this principle, freedom to do the best work, as conscience dictates, or prompt and open removal for inefficiency. Only under such conditions will honest and ambitious men be persuaded to give their whole hearts to public work.

MAKE TAXATION THE MAIN ISSUE.

The Tax Conference of the Conference for Education in the South yesterday recorded itself in favor of two propositions: (1) wherever inequality and injustice exist in State taxation, a State tax commission, with plenary power, should be established; (2) in every State there should be held from time to time State tax conferences. These resolves came after informing and helpful addresses on several phases of the tax problem.

The most valuable suggestion thrown out in the course of the final session of the Tax Conference came from Dr. Charles Lee Raper, dean of the graduate school of the University of North Carolina, who said that in the Southern States the tax issue should be connected with other issues, so that its real importance may be emphasized. There should be a State-wide popular movement for tax reform. Candidates for State office should be compelled to run on specific platforms relating to tax revision. It should be the leading issue, and not an incidental matter. Taxation should be the first question to be discussed by those who seek to lead, inform and shape the thought of the people. In West Virginia the number of high schools has increased from twelve to 129 since an efficient tax system was established. When a State properly imposes and carefully collects all the taxes due it from all those who owe it, the inevitable result is that that State possesses very much larger revenue to expend for the general welfare of the people. An effective tax system means for any State better roads, better schools, better government, better conditions of living, more progressive communities and greater popular content with the State administration.

State Superintendent J. V. Joyner, of North Carolina, expressed the unanimous belief of the State superintendents of education of the South at the Tax Conference yesterday when he said that there should be a State and county tax sufficient to provide funds for a seven months' school term. The county tax so levied should be applied, it was declared, solely for education in that county. It must be clear that if efficient tax laws exist, the rate of the school tax will be reduced, or a greater aggregate amount will be expended upon education. If the State can collect its taxes thoroughly it will have larger funds to devote to the general benefit.

It was pointed out yesterday that, excepting West Virginia, no Southern State has a scientific and efficient system of taxation. Almost all of the States seem to adhere to the antiquated system which retards progress and defeats the square deal in this Commonwealth. Virginia accomplished something, at least, through its short-lived State Tax Commission, for Dr. Raper declared yesterday that the report of that body to the General Assembly of 1912, largely the work of the expert, Dr. Douglas S. Freeman, was one of the best ever issued in the United States. North Carolina will probably create a State tax commission within two years, but Virginia still lags behind.

Lawson O. Purdy, president of the State Department of Taxes and Assessments of New York City, and T. S. Adams, of the Wisconsin State Tax Commission, yesterday declared that it is important that there should be a State tax conference in every State. The leading public officials engaged in the administration of tax laws, the foremost educators in this department from our colleges and universities, representative officers of leading industrial concerns and public service corporations and all other citizens interested in this great problem should be brought together to discuss taxation and to formulate and announce, through the deliberately expressed opinion of an annual conference, the best informed economic thought and administrative experience available for the correct guidance of public opinion, legislative and administrative action on all questions pertaining to State and local taxation and to interstate and international comity in taxation." Mr. Purdy said yesterday, with reference to the New York conference on taxation, that it has stimulated the thought of the people of the State on one of their greatest problems and has had a noticeable educational effect. It has caused many citizens to devote serious study to the question, and, in Mr. Purdy's opinion, a similar conference in any State would be helpful, because it would hasten tax reform.

The two suggestions of the Tax Conference for Education should be adopted by Virginia. This Commonwealth should have a tax commission, and it should have a State tax conference. Until these things are secured our tax system will continue to be a network of deceit, fraud and theft.

EDUCATION IN RHETORIC.

Why not have the Conference for Education in the South take up the matter of educating the Conferees in rhetoric? We have small taste for criticizing a gathering whence we have drawn fresh faith and hope in the destiny of the South and the nation. Yet if a suggestion made now may help in the future, it is not untimely or ungracious. We urge, therefore, that the very noble and useful art of speaking to the point and getting something said in fifteen minutes be cultivated by those who have such tremendously important messages to give in such a very short time.

To make a very poor pun, in telling about farm demonstration, there should be a little more "form" demonstration. Every speaker and every auditor must have gained the impression that the time was too short for what had to be said. But was it? If a true idea of the points to be made and the method of making them had been in mind, and this conception adjusted to the time limit, many more vital facts could have been pushed home. Better organization of material would have lengthened each man's allotment of time. We have heard two criticisms: "He didn't have time to get started," and "He didn't tell us the new and practical things we wanted to hear."

Now the scary sound of the word rhetoric sometimes hides its true meaning. Rhetoric is the science of expressing facts and opinions concisely and forcefully. Perhaps, it may be thought of as one of the "frills" of education, as a useless part of the old humanities. Yet a knowledge of how to group facts, arrange them logically, use the right illustration, and draw a pertinent and telling conclusion seems to us the very essence of a true education. No matter how much you know, if you tell it in a bungling and long-winded way, you lose part of the effect.

For instance, how easy it would be for some of these speakers to have written out their ideas, and then read them aloud before a clock. Four main points might have been included, or one point driven home in that time. The useless verbiage and repetition of what every one knows might have been eliminated. The exact weight and significance of every sentence would have been measured. Introductions, perorations and rambling could have been eliminated.

Education means self-expression. Expression means speaking or writing. In every school curriculum the practice of writing and speaking to the point should be included. To help the other man you have got to get what is in your head and heart into his head and heart. Knowing something is only half the job. Imparting it is the other half.

OILING THE HINGES.

Speaking of co-operation, why did not somebody imbued with the spirit of brotherhood in practical shape oil the material and social hinges of the John Marshall auditorium? Every meeting has been constantly disturbed by thoughtless and non-co-operative people coming and going while the speakers vainly tried to drown out the squeaking of the doors and the thud of feet. The meetings began a little after 8 o'clock, and until 9, late arrivals made it difficult to hear and enjoy what was being given. Then about 9 the folks who tire easily, or perhaps the farmers who have the early to bed habit and so get sleepy, began shuffling out. The man in the middle of the row would disturb all the surrounding country in his efforts to walk over less without removing them. Then the rest began to "flush-hush" and the speaker looked puzzled.

An audience must be the most co-operative thing in the world. Proper consideration of others is the fundamental of social gatherings. The whole theory and practice of co-operation is illustrated in a public meeting. You must think of the other fellow, and he must think of you if you are both to get a square deal. It involves good manners, forthrightness and imagination. There is no reason why a man must come late to an address. If he does, cannot he sit in the rear of the hall until an opportune time for going forward? If he expects

to find the speeches dull and uninteresting, or has any other reason for leaving early, can he not be unselfish enough to take a seat from whence his exit will not resemble a stampede? Noise disturbs the speaker. It hinders every other person in the group from his full pleasure. It is incarnate selfishness. Is it possible that men are so dazed by the millions they are to make by co-operation that they cannot see its very symbol in their midst? The ability to get the other fellow's point of view, to work in harmony with him, to understand how you and he stand or fall together, makes up the principles of united action. It will not do to leave things to the ushers. They might have oiled the doors, but there is no oil for human hearts. The spirit of co-operation means unselfishness. That has to be in a man. If it is, he remembers the comfort and happiness of his fellows.

HELP A GIRL.

A strong appeal to women of wealth and education to aid in the great uplift work that is going on is being voiced in addresses throughout the nation by Miss Jessie Wilson, the daughter of the President, who spoke here last week at the national convention of the Young Women's Christian Association. Her suggestion is that such women should select a poor but worthy girl and educate her along practical lines of service to women generally.

A thousand dollars expended for such a purpose would secure better results than if given to some large institution. It would be a direct, personal outlay, and the benefit obtained and the good done would be visible. It would be a tremendous satisfaction to a woman of means to educate such a girl and afterward behold her out in the world helping other people to better, happier lives.

The Ohio State Journal is right in declaring that "it is strange there is not more employment of wealth in this direction; in putting it right to work on a clear and definite purpose and seeing the results working out." There is in such an instance a devotion of wealth to individual life, to uplifting and strengthening another, an achievement of the highest good.

COMMISSION GOVERNMENT GAINS.

The voters of Jersey City have voted commission government for that municipality. The fact is significant because it is one of the largest cities—it ranked nineteenth in the last census, with its population of 247,000. Jersey City has tired of partisan rule and now its 122 officeholders are to be replaced by five men selected without regard to partisan affiliation.

Here is another indication that the American people are becoming dissatisfied with partisan politics in municipal business. The government of a municipality is an administrative and not a political problem. Efficiency should be the main test for the officeholder rather than party ties.

Now Jersey holds a referendum on the issue of changing to the commission form of city administration. Most of the larger cities have voted against the new method, but if it succeeds in Jersey City, Newark, Paterson, Trenton, Elizabeth and other cities may also adopt commission rule.

ELECTRIC LINES AS REVENUE EARNERS.

Recent compilations, showing the gross and net earnings of the electric railways in the United States, supply evidences of the steady growth in the revenues of that class of properties. Records covering many years demonstrate that in this matter the electric lines—urban and interurban—are in a different category from that of the steam railroads. Earnings of the steam roads often fluctuate sharply from year to year. Crop failures, complete or partial, and the consequent reduction of purchasing power in the affected districts, decrease the movement of freight in a single season, although in the next a reversal of those conditions may effect a recovery in revenues, and it may be, a substantial gain.

"With the electric roads the situation is different," the Chicago Record-Herald declares. "Their earnings are less affected by country-wide conditions. They depend for their income on the activity of cities and the development of local territory. Virtually all the centres which they serve grow more rapidly and more steadily than the country as a whole, and in that respect the electric lines have an advantage over the steam lines."

Figures as to the operations of 257 electric roads and systems in the United States show that in 1912 their aggregate gross earnings were \$410,796,800. This compares with \$385,602,700 in 1911, the increase amounting to \$25,194,100, or 6.55 per cent. The aggregate net earnings of the same roads in 1912 were \$165,465,500, compared with \$152,988,400 in 1911, an increase of \$12,477,100, or 8.15 per cent. From 1904 through 1912, there was a steady increase in the gross and net revenues of the electric lines.

Among the steam railroads the increase in the same period was general, although not constant. In 1911, for example, the revenues of the steam roads reflected clearly the adverse conditions—slim crops and general trade reaction—of that time. Their aggregate gross earnings were \$200,000,000, or 1 per cent less than those of the preceding year. The great crops of the past season restored the loss in 1912 and added something more. In net earnings the steam roads showed a decrease of 2.67 per cent for 1911 and an increase of 6.88 in 1912. The electric roads gained 6.53 per cent net in the first of the two years and 8.15 per cent in the second.

That sage who advises youth to keep on falling in love and staying forever young, might have added something about staying forever poor.

Is Dr. Friedmann trying to enter Dr. Cook's class?